

Message Text

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SUBJECT: UN CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR
DEVELOPMENT (UNCSTD); 2ND PREPCOM

1. PREPCOM WORKING GROUP ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED JAN 30 BY ZAIRE ON BEHALF OF GROUP OF 77 ON SUBJECT AREAS FOR UNCSTD. SUBJECT AREAS INCLUDED IN RESOLUTION ARE ESSENTIALLY COMPILATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY REGIONAL COMMISSIONS DURING 1977 AND ARE TO BE REGARDED ONLY AS "ILLUSTRATIVE" OF PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH APPLICATION OF S&T TO DEVELOPMENT. ONLY FEW AMENDMENTS TO TEXT OF RESOLUTION WERE MADE DURING INFORMAL MEETING HELD AFTERNOON JAN 31. THESE INCLUDE ADDITION OF "ENVIRONMENT" TO ITEM 3.

2. TEXT OF RESOLUTION: THE 2ND PREPCOM OF UNCSTD, RECALLING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2028 (LXI) AND 2035 (LXI) ON, INTER ALIA, THE SELECTION OF SUBJECT AREAS IN RELATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT; RECALLING ALSO ITS DECISIONS 1 (I), PARAGRAPH 5, AND 2 (I), PARAGRAPH 8; TAKING NOTE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIVE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS REGARDING THE SUBJECT AREAS AND SUB-TOPICS; RECALLING FURTHER THAT SUBJECT AREAS ARE INTENDED ONLY TO

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SERVE AS A MEANS FOR IDENTIFICATION AND PRACTICAL ILLUSTRATION OF SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES CONTAINED IN CONF AGENDA IN APPLICATION OF AND TO DEVELOPMENT; ADOPTS FOLLOWING INDICATIVE LIST OF SUBJECT AREAS AND SUB-TOPICS: 1. FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (A) AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGY AND TECHNIQUES AND THEIR IMPROVEMENT (B) NUTRITION (C) FISHERIES (D) FOOD STORAGE PROCESSING; 2. NATURAL RESOURCES INCLUDING ENERGY

(A) RENEWABLE AND NON-RENEWABLE (B) CONVENTIONAL AND NON-CONVENTIONAL SOURCES OF ENERGY (C) DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION (D) RATIONAL MANAGEMENT AND UTILIZATION; 3. HEALTH, HUMAN SETTLEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT, (A) MEDICINAL PLANTS AND PHARMACEUTICALS, (B) HEALTH SERVICES, (C) HOUSING, (HABITAT IN FRENCH TEXT) (D) SOCIAL SERVICES AND ENVIRONMENT; 4. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS AND 5. INDUSTRIALIZATION INCLUDING PRODUCTION OF CAPITAL GOODS. END OF RESOLUTION.

2. GROUP OF 77 HAVE MET ALMOST DAILY TO DISCUSS TEXT OF ONE OR MORE NEW RESOLUTIONS. ALLEGEDLY BASED ON DRAFT BY VENEZUELAN DEL WITH PARTICIPATION BY INDIA, EGYPT, MEXICO AND RUMANIA ONE DRAFT RESOLUTION CONSISTS ESSENTIALLY OF LONG LIST OF ISSUES WHICH IN VIEW OF G77 ARE CAUSING OBSTACLES IN APPLICATION ON S&T TO THEIR DEVELOPMENT. THESE OBSTACLES LISTED AT NATIONAL LEVEL, REGIONAL LEVEL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVEL, DO NOT APPEAR TO GO BEYOND TOPICS LISTED LAST YEAR IN GUIDELINES FOR PREPARATION OF NATIONAL PAPERS. DRAFT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZES OBSTACLES DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THEMSELVES MUST REMOVE FROM THEIR OWN SOCIO/ECONOMIC SYSTEMS IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO APPLY S&T TO THEIR DEVELOPMENT, SUCH AS, INTER ALIA INADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURE, LACK OF NATIONAL POLICIES AND PRIORITIES AND NON-AVAILABILITY OF ENTREPRENEURS. DRAFT ALSO MENTIONS AMONG OBSTACLES TO DEVELOPMENT: RESTRICTIVE PRACTICES IN TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, INHIBITING INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY SYSTEM
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AND LACK OF REAL CONCERN ABOUT R&D NEEDS OF LDC'S BY DC'S.

3. A FINAL DRAFT OF G77 RESOLUTION EXPECTED TO SURFACE LATE WEDNESDAY OR THURSDAY 2. UNCLEAR WHETHER LATE PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION REFLECTS STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS OR WHETHER IT IS INDICATION OF DISAGREEMENT AMONG LDC'S WHICH HAS APPARENTLY PERSISTED THROUGHOUT THIS MEETING. DISAGREEMENT APPARENTLY STEMS FROM DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES AMONG LDC'S OF WHAT IS NEEDED TO ACCELERATE THEIR DEVELOPMENT, WITH LEAST DEVELOPED G77 WANTING EMPHASIZE NEED FOR MORE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND MORE ADVANCED MEMBERS OF GROUP WANTING TO STRESS NEED TO REMOVE INTERNATIONAL PRACTICES THAT ALLEGEDLY INHIBIT THEIR DEVELOPMENT AND TEND TO PERPETRATE THEIR ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY.
VANDEN HEUVEL

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